

**Community Relations Committee
Judicial Conference of Indiana**

Minutes
April 21, 2005

The Community Relations Committee of the Judicial Conference of Indiana met at the Indiana Judicial Center on April 21, 2005.

1. **Members present.** The following members of the committee were present: Stanley Levine (chair), Blaine Akers, Robert Altice, Lorenzo Arredondo, Rosemary Higgins Burke, William Fee, Susan Orth, and John Sharpnack.
2. **Staff present.** Jenny Bauer provided the committee with staff assistance.
3. **Minutes approved.** The minutes from the January 2004 meeting were approved.
4. **Public Relations Firm.** Judge Levine reported that the Indiana Judges Association hired a public relations firm. A principal in the firm has a connection to Governor Mitch Daniels and will work on talking points for the judges pay bill.
5. **Op/Ed Pieces.** Judge Levine thanked Judge Arredondo and Judge Fee for the opinion articles each had published in the *Indiana Lawyer*. He encouraged other committee members to also submit articles to spread the word about the work done by Indiana's judges.
6. **Handbook for jurors.** Judge Levine reported that he would coordinate the handbook for jurors project with Judge Nelson and Judge Arredondo.
7. **Bench/Media Guide Update.** Steve Key, general counsel for the Hoosier State Press Association, reported that the Hoosier State Press Association hired Janice Kreuscher in November 2003 to work on the Law/Media Guidebook. Ms. Kreuscher's draft of the guidebook did not look like what HSPA had envisioned, so they are now working with a group of editors and Mr. Key will draft a new version of the guidebook. The format for the guidebook will be a webpage that is updated on a frequent basis and will follow the National Center for Courts and Media's model. Mr. Key stated that he plans to bring a draft to the committee in September.
8. **Judge/Journalist Workshop.** Judge Levine reported that the National Center for Courts and Media would like to do a one-day seminar for judges and journalists in Indianapolis. The session would be held in the fall and be coordinated by the Indiana Judicial Center. The Hoosier State Press Association has expressed an interest in helping with the session, and the Indiana Broadcast Association (Linda Compton is the contact) may also be interested in helping. Judge Levine asked

Jenny Bauer to discuss the workshop with Jane Seigel and to get more information from the NCCM in Reno.

9. **Other business.** The committee also discussed the Indiana Judges Association Community Awareness awards and the Fire Brigade. Judge Levine asked Jenny Bauer to contact Judge Dreyer for an update on the Fire Brigade.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Bauer
Staff Attorney